

B E535 AAE
MAHATHIR-ECONOMY (CORRECTED RPTN, REPLACES EARLIER ITEM)

BM

87
KOTA BAHARU, OCT 2 (BERNAMA) -- THE NATION'S RECOVERING ECONOMY COMPARED WITH THAT OF FIVE MONTHS AGO HAS RESULTED IN THE DEMAND FOR THE PROTON SAGA TO EXCEED EXPECTATIONS, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY.

BUYERS OF THE NATIONAL CAR NOW HAD TO WAIT UP TILL THREE MONTHS BECAUSE OF THE HUGE DEMAND, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID.

THE PEOPLE NOW HAD THE FINANCIAL CAPABILITY AS COMPARED WITH THE TIME THE COUNTRY WAS HIT BY THE RECESSION, HE ADDED WHEN ADDRESSING THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE WHO TURNED UP AT THE SULTAN ISMAIL PETRA AIRPORT IN PENKALAN CHEPA TO WELCOME HIM ON ARRIVAL FOR A TWO-DAY VISIT.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT PREVIOUSLY THE VIEW HELD WAS THAT THE SALE OF THE PROTON SAGA WAS SLOW AS A RESULT OF THE INABILITY OF THE PEOPLE TO BUY THE CAR BECAUSE OF THE RECESSION.

HE SAID THE SITUATION HAD NOW CHANGED AND THE SALE OF THE PROTON SAGA HAD RISEN AND AT THE SAME TIME ERADICATED THE NEGATIVE VIEW TOWARDS THE NATIONAL CAR. -- MORE

(END OF CORRECTED RPTN)

1551MST 02 10 87

0792

B E532 AAE
MAHATHIR-ECONOMY 2 KOTA BAHARU

ON DEVELOPMENT, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE GOVERNMENT ALWAYS PAID SERIOUS ATTENTION TO KELANTAN BY GIVING IT ALLOCATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES THAT WERE BIGGER THAN MOST OTHER STATES EXCEPT SABAH AND SARAWAK BECAUSE THESE TWO STATES WERE VAST AND LAGGING BEHIND.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT EVEN DURING THE RECESSION KELANTAN WAS GIVEN HUGE ALLOCATIONS IN THE INTEREST OF THE PEOPLE WHO WERE THIRSTY FOR DEVELOPMENT.

EARLIER, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE BARISAN NASIONAL WAS ABLE TO SET UP A STRONG STATE GOVERNMENT IN KELANTAN AFTER THE LANDSLIDE VICTORY IN THE GENERAL ELECTION LAST YEAR.

HE SAID THE SUCCESS CAME ABOUT THROUGH THE COOPERATION AND SOLIDARITY THAT EXISTED AMONG THE BN COMPONENT PARTIES.

THE IMPRESSIVE VICTORY OF THE BN IN THE ELECTION HAD FOR ONCE AND FOR ALL PUT PAID TO THE PREDICTION OF CERTAIN GROUPS THAT THE BN WOULD FAIL IN THE ELECTION AND FIND IT HARD TO FORM THE GOVERNMENT AGAIN IN KELANTAN. -- BERNAMA

1541MST 02 10 87